From: Ilan Rabinovitch
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/11/01 1:20am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I suggest you do not accept any settlement in which Microsoft may offer free software and services instead of money or other restrictions. Allowing them to provide educational institutions with free software will only strengthen their monopoly by forcing their software on todays youth. Possibly accept Red Hat's offer to provide all software and training services for free if Microsoft provides hardware as payment for their wrong doings and anti-competitive practices.

In addition any provisions in the settlement that apply to Microsoft's competitors should also apply to open source, public domain, educational, and non profit projects/groups/organizations. The MSFT monopoloy has hurt these groups just as it has hurt comercial competitors.

Microsoft recently retired windows 95. This and other products such as DOS, Windows 3.x, etc should have their source code opened and made available under a license that allows the code to benefit the public. Example licenses that would benefit the public: GPL, BSD, Public Domain, etc.

You should consider requiring them to open the code to other products as well. For example Internet Explorer and other versions of windows.

In all cases code which is offered should be released under licenses that dont hinder the ability of the public to make use of the code.

Finally please consider limiting Microsoft's ability to enter the home entertainment system market. This will allow them to spread their monopoly to the machines that run our homes. I for one do not look forward to a day where Microsoft runs all aspects of my life. As it is their sub par software has made our lives more difficult by introducing regular crashes and security issues into a majority of the computing systems in the world.

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